

Amendments in the Claims: (struck-through parts deleted and underlined parts added)

1. (currently amended) A tool for cracking crabs, said tool comprising:
a base having a top surface, a bottom surface, a pair of end edges and a pair of
5 side edges, said base comprising a water buoyant material;
a cracking member, said base having a cracking member storage well extending
into one of said end edges for selectively receiving said cracking member,
said well being positioned between said top surface and said bottom
surface; and

10 a coupler being attached to said top surface for selectively attaching said cracking
member to said base such that said cracking member extends upwardly
from said base.

2. (original) The tool of claim 1, wherein said top and bottom surfaces each
15 having a generally rectangular shape, each of said end edges having a length generally
between 8 inches and 12 inches, each of said side edges having a length generally
between 8 inches and 12 inches.

Claim 3 (cancelled)

20 4. (currently amended) The tool of claim 1, wherein said cracking member
includes a plate having an upper edge and a lower edge, a flange being attached to and
extending along a length of said lower edge, said flange being orientated generally
perpendicular to a plane of said plate, said flange having oppositely positioned edges
25 extending in opposite directions with respect to said plane of said plate.

30 5. (currently amended) The tool of claim 4, wherein said coupler includes a
raised section generally extending between said end edges of said top surface, said raised
section having a slot extending through a length thereof, said slot having a horizontal
portion and a vertical portion extending away from the horizontal portion and upwardly
through and an upper side of said raised surface, wherein said flange may be removably

extended into said horizontal portion such that said plate extends upwardly through said vertical portion.

6. (original) The tool of claim 1, further including a plurality of feet being attached to said bottom surface.

5 7. (original) The tool of claim 6, wherein each of said feet are elongated and each generally extends between said end edges of said base.

10 Claims 8-10 (cancelled)

11. (currently amended) A tool for cracking crabs, said tool comprising:
a base having a top surface, a bottom surface, a pair of end edges and a pair of side edges, said top and bottom surfaces each having a generally
15 rectangular shape, each of said end edges having a length generally between 8 inches and 12 inches, each of said side edges having a length generally between 8 inches and 12 inches, said base comprising a water buoyant material;
a cracking member includes a plate having an upper edge and a lower edge, a
20 flange being attached to and extending along a length of said lower edge, said flange being orientated generally perpendicular to a plane of said plate, said flange extending in opposite directions with respect to said plane of said plate;
a coupler being attached to said top surface for selectively attaching said cracking
25 member to said base such that said cracking member extends upwardly from said base, said coupler being generally positioned in a central area of said top surface, said coupler including a raised section generally extending between said end edges of said top surface, said raised section having a slot extending through a length thereof, said slot having a
30 horizontal portion and a vertical portion extending away from the horizontal portion and upwardly through an upper side of said raised

surface, wherein said flange may be removably extended into said horizontal portion such that said plate extends upwardly through said vertical portion;

5 a plurality of feet being attached to said bottom surface, each of said feet being elongated and generally extending between said end edges of said base; and

a cracking member storage well extending into one of said end edges, said well having a size and shape for selectively receiving said cracking member in a stored position.

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12. (new) The tool of claim 1, wherein said water buoyant material is a wood material.

15 13. (new) A tool for cracking crabs, said tool comprising:
a crab;
a base having a top surface, a bottom surface, a pair of end edges and a pair of side edges, said base comprising a water buoyant material;
a cracking member;
a coupler being attached to said top surface for selectively attaching said cracking
20 member to said base such that said cracking member extends upwardly from said base; and
wherein said crab may be selectively cracked upon said cracking member.

25 14. (new) The tool of claim 13, wherein said top and bottom surfaces each having a generally rectangular shape, each of said end edges having a length generally between 8 inches and 12 inches, each of said side edges having a length generally between 8 inches and 12 inches.

30 15. (new) The tool of claim 13, wherein said base comprises a water buoyant material.

16. (new) The tool of claim 15, wherein said water buoyant material is a wood material.

17. (new) The tool of claim 13, wherein said cracking member includes a plate having an upper edge and a lower edge, a flange being attached to and extending along a length of said lower edge, said flange being orientated generally perpendicular to a plane of said plate, said flange extending in opposite directions with respect to said plane of said plate.

10 18. (new) The tool of claim 17, wherein said coupler includes a raised section generally extending between said end edges of said top surface, said raised section having a slot extending through a length thereof, said slot having a horizontal portion and a vertical portion extending away from the horizontal portion and upwardly through an upper side of said raised surface, wherein said flange may be removably extended into
15 said horizontal portion such that said plate extends upwardly through said vertical portion.

19. (new) The tool of claim 13, further including a plurality of feet being attached to said bottom surface.

20 20. (new) The tool of claim 19, wherein each of said feet are elongated and each generally extends between said end edges of said base.

21. (new) The tool of claim 13, further including a cracking member storage
25 well extending into one of said end edges for selectively receiving said cracking member.

22. (new) The tool of claim 18, further including a cracking member storage well extending into one of said end edges for selectively receiving said cracking member, said well having a size and shape for selectively receiving said cracking member in a
30 stored position.

23. (new) The tool of claim 18, wherein said base comprises a water buoyant material.